

Regarding the assertion on page 3 of the Restriction Requirement that a serious burden would be placed on the Examiner if all the claims were examined in one application, Applicants note that all of Claims 1 and 11-33 **have already been examined**. Accordingly, treatment of the claims already examined would not place a serious burden on the Examiner inasmuch as a search has already been conducted, and references have already been cited against these claims. Additionally, the claims have already been checked for issues under 35 U.S.C. § 101 and § 112.

Further, all the pending claims of the present invention would appear to be part of an overlapping search area. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding Restriction Requirement on the grounds that a search and examination of the entire application would not place a serious burden on the Examiner. Therefore, an action on all of Claims 1 and 11-33 is earnestly solicited.

The present application is believed to be in condition for allowance and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

Customer Number

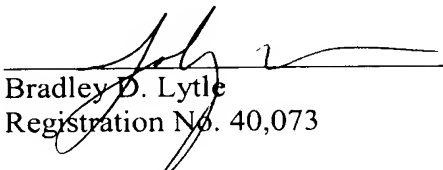
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